

# CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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## NOTICES AND REPORTS

### Imperial County Postgraduate Seminar

The C.M.A. Postgraduate Committee reports on the Imperial County Seminar held at El Centro, May 20 and 21:

#### MAY 20

8:00 p.m.—Cancer of the Cervix and the Fundus Uteri—William E. Costolow, M.D., Los Angeles.  
General Aspects of Cancer—Lyell C. Kinney, M.D., Chairman, C.M.A., Cancer Commission.

#### MAY 21

10:00 a.m.—Clinical Conference: (1) Rheumatic Fever; (2) Toxemia of Pregnancy.

#### AFTERNOON PROGRAM

Common Pediatric Problems Encountered in General Practice—Sam J. McClendon, M.D., San Diego.  
Modern Management of Common Obstetrical Problems—Ralph Hoffman, M.D., San Diego.  
Pitfalls in Gynecological Surgery—Charles Isham, M.D., San Diego.  
Panel Presentation—Office Gynecology, Pediatrics and Obstetrics.  
Discussion Period.  
Motion Picture: Normal Breech Delivery.

Sixteen members of the Imperial Medical Association attended the seminars. This is approximately 60 per cent of the membership.

The program provided an excellent summary of the recognized and accepted advances in the presented subjects and it was agreed that the committee and the physicians attending the seminars were particularly fortunate in obtaining a fine faculty. Dr. Costolow emphasized the importance of early diagnosis of cancer of the cervix and endometrium. The responsibility for this, he said, rests not only with the patient but also with the family physician whose attention to unusual symptoms, with immediate and definite diagnosis by proper physical examination and biopsy, will result in treatment of a larger percentage of cases in early stages where an 85 per cent cure rate can be expected. Dr. Kinney's discussion dealt with the increasing incidence of cancer coincidental with the extension of the life span of larger proportions of the population into the years of higher incidence of cancer. Fifty per cent of all cancer may be diagnosed by the family physician, Dr. Kinney said, and the other 50 per cent must be

promptly diagnosed with the help of consultation and special examinations.

Dr. McClendon pointed out that in California there are only 335 pediatricians to serve an expanding population of approximately 10,000,000 people. The majority of pediatric care, about 75 per cent, particularly in non-metropolitan areas must therefore be supplied by physicians in general practice, he said. He discussed pediatric problems most likely to confront general practitioners. Dr. Hoffman's paper on obstetrics presented many very vital advances in this field particularly in prenatal care, in anesthesia, and in solution of operative problems. Dr. Isham outlined the most important and frequently occurring gynecological diseases and discussed the present treatment of them through uses of chemotherapy, antibiotics and surgery.

Physicians who attended the seminars requested that others be offered in the area in the fall months.

### Executive Committee Minutes

*Tentative Drafts: Minutes of the 208th and 209th Meeting of the California Medical Association Executive Committee.*

The 208th meeting was called to order by Dr. Sidney J. Shipman, acting chairman, at 10 a.m., in Room 220, St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco, Wednesday, April 14, 1948.

#### 1. Roll Call:

Present were Doctors E. V. Askey, R. Stanley Kneeshaw, Lewis A. Alesen, Sidney J. Shipman, L. Henry Garland (ex officio), members of the Executive Committee, Dr. Dwight H. Murray, chairman of the Committee on Public Policy and Legislation, Mr. Ben H. Read, executive secretary of the Public Health League of California, Mr. Howard Hassard, legal counsel, Mr. John Hunton, executive secretary, and Mr. Ed Clancy of public relations counsel.

#### 2. Hospital District in Porterville:

Mr. Read discussed the situation in Porterville, where a hospital district is in process of formation and pressure is being put upon local officials to open

up the staff of the proposed hospital to various substandard practitioners. The local physicians have asked for assistance from the Association in public relations matters and on motion regularly made and seconded, it was voted to send Mr. Clancy to Porterville to survey the situation and report back to the Council with suggestions for assistance to the local members.

After further discussion of the potential dangers to high professional standards through formation of hospital districts and the use of federal or state funds as aids in hospital construction, the following resolution was made, seconded and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Many California communities are in need of additional hospital facilities; and

WHEREAS, Federal and state funds are available in some cases to aid in the construction of such facilities; and

WHEREAS, Funds may also be obtained by private subscription, as has been done in many communities under properly organized campaigns; and

WHEREAS, Federal or state funds may be obtained only by following a prescribed procedure which may entail considerable delay and may place upon the hospital directorate many burdens of construction details, possibly including costly fixtures not considered essential by those who will use, own and operate the hospital; and

WHEREAS, The provision of state funds will place the receiving hospital in a position where demands may be made upon the hospital management to admit substandard practitioners to the hospital professional staff because public money has been used in aid of construction and any practitioner may claim with some cause that his patients are a part of the public; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Executive Committee of the California Medical Association, the Council concurring, places itself on record as urging that funds for hospital construction be raised by private subscription and cautioning all physicians and communities to investigate carefully the disadvantages attached to the use of public funds for hospital construction, it being understood that in some instances the use of public funds may represent a necessity which permits no alternative; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to all component county medical societies so that these societies and their members may look into the possible disadvantages of using public funds for hospital construction and not be misled by the theory of "something for nothing."

Adjournment.

SIDNEY J. SHIPMAN, M.D., *Chairman*  
L. HENRY GARLAND, M.D., *Secretary*

## 209th Meeting

The 209th meeting was called to order by acting Chairman Sidney J. Shipman in the Association's office at 11 a.m., Sunday, May 9, 1948.

### 1. Roll Call:

Present were Doctors Shipman, Askey, Bruck and Kneeshaw, members of the Executive Committee, Secretary Garland and Editor Wilbur, ex officio members, and Messrs. Hunton (executive secretary), Hassard (legal counsel), and Clem Whitaker, public relations counsel. Absent: Dr. L. A. Alesen (illness).

### 2. Organization of Committee:

Attention was called to the fact that the Executive Committee had not yet organized. Upon nomination duly made and seconded, Dr. Sidney J. Shipman was unanimously elected Chairman.

### 3. Hospital Construction:

Considerable discussion was held concerning the construction of hospitals with private, state and federal funds or available combinations of such funds. It was pointed out that the receipt of federal funds is through the State Department of Public Health, which designates a priority list for hospitals to receive the limited (about \$1,900,000 annually) federal hospital money available to the State of California. It was also pointed out that various construction specifications are imposed before federal funds may be received and that such specifications may result in an increased construction cost. Attention was also paid to the present lack of state laws which require the maintenance of professional standards in hospitals constructed under the Hospital District Law, this lack leaving such hospitals at the discretion of the local administrative board insofar as professional staff and operating standards are concerned.

It was regularly moved, seconded and unanimously voted that the Association adopt a program to (1) amend present state laws in order to insure high professional standards in hospitals constructed under the Hospital District Law, (2) carry on an educational program with county medical societies and their members relative to the advisability of raising hospital funds by private subscription and the possibilities of impaired professional standards where public moneys are obtained for hospital construction, and (3) work toward the elimination of substandard health insurance policies now reported being sold in quantity in California.

### 4. Osteopathy:

It was reported to the committee that the California Osteopathic Association has an active committee engaged in studying the possibility of a merger of medicine and osteopathy in California, that a new osteopathic school has sprung up in the state and is issuing M.D. degrees and that at least some of the osteopathic leaders in California are interested in a possible professional merger. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that Doctors Askey and L. A. Alesen be authorized to meet with members of the committee of the California Osteopathic Association for informal discussions of this matter.

### 5. Los Angeles Office for C.M.A.:

Mr. Hunton reported on his investigations into available office space in Los Angeles and stated that

the major medical buildings there were not able to offer suitable space at this time. He also reported that Mr. Ed Clancy of Mr. Whitaker's office now has an office in Room 606 of the Subway Terminal Building in downtown Los Angeles, with telephone answering and stenographic service available through a public stenographer from whom the office space is rented. Mr. Clancy's services have recently been in demand for legislative purposes for the Association and the Committee on Public Policy and Legislation has outlined additional work for him that will extend for a year or more. Mr. Hunton suggested, and Mr. Whitaker agreed, that under the circumstances it would be advisable for the Association to place Mr. Clancy directly on its payroll and divide his duties between legislative work and field secretarial work out of the Los Angeles office.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted that Mr. Clancy be employed by the Association, with headquarters in Los Angeles, and that the office he now occupies be assumed by the Association as its Los Angeles office for the use of Association employees, including the Cancer Commission.

#### 6. *Definition of Public Health:*

The Chairman and members of the committee discussed the proposal that a definition of the scope of

recognized public health activities and a delineation between public health and the private practice of medicine be arrived at. After discussion it was regularly moved, seconded and voted unanimously that such a definition be undertaken in cooperation with Dr. Wilton L. Halverson, State Director of Public Health.

#### 7. *Proposed A.M.A. Resolution Re Rebates:*

A letter was read from Dr. Wilbur Bailey, in which he proposed that a resolution be introduced into the A.M.A. House of Delegates by the delegates from California in an attempt to clarify possible misunderstandings regarding rebating practices. It was brought out that the A.M.A. now has a committee studying rebating questions and that Dr. E. Vincent Askey is a member of that committee. It was regularly moved, seconded and voted that legal counsel prepare a letter to this committee, requesting that the committee introduce a resolution into the A.M.A. House of Delegates to establish as a part of the Principles of Medical Ethics a definition of rebating which could be applied in any state or county medical society.

Adjournment.

SIDNEY J. SHIPMAN, M.D., *Chairman*

L. HENRY GARLAND, M.D., *Secretary*

## In Memoriam

ALLEN, CARLTON STEWART. Died in Los Angeles, May 4, 1948, age 64, of a heart attack. Graduate of the University of Southern California School of Medicine, Los Angeles, 1909. Licensed in California in 1909. Doctor Allen was a retired member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association and the California Medical Association.

KIRKPATRICK, JOSEPH HUNTER. Died in Los Angeles, March, 1948, age 77. Graduate of the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, Illinois, 1897. Licensed in California in 1897. Doctor Kirkpatrick was a retired member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association and the California Medical Association.

LINDSAY, WILLIAM KINKADE. Died in Sacramento, May 5, 1948, age 71. Graduate of the University of California Medical School, Berkeley-San Francisco, 1901. Licensed in California in 1901. Doctor Lindsay was a retired member of the Sacramento Society for Medical Improvement and the California Medical Association.

MACK, CLIFFORD WILMOT. Died in Livermore, March 31, 1948, age 64. Graduate of the University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, 1908. Licensed in California in 1908. Doctor Mack was a member of the Alameda County Medical Association, the California Medical Association, and an Affiliate Fellow of the American Medical Association.

PHILIP, WILLIAM STEWART. Died in Pasadena, November 29, 1947, age 82. Graduate of McGill University Faculty of Medicine, Montreal, 1889. Licensed in California in 1896. Doctor Philp was a member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, the California Medical Association, and a Fellow of the American Medical Association.

ROGERS, FRANCIS LLEWELLYN. Died in San Pedro, April 30, 1948, age 83, following an extended illness. Graduate of the State University of Iowa College of Medicine, Iowa City, 1891. Licensed in California in 1906. Doctor Rogers was a retired member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association and the California Medical Association.

SLEMONS, JOSIAH MORRIS. Died in Los Angeles, April 30, 1948, age 72. Graduate of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, 1901. Licensed in California in 1913. Doctor Slemons was a retired member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association and the California Medical Association.

SMILEY, HARRY WILBUR. Died in La Jolla, April, 1948, age 62. Graduate of the University of Arkansas School of Medicine, Little Rock, 1918. Licensed in California in 1920. Doctor Smiley was a retired member of the Riverside County Medical Society and the California Medical Association.

WOODS, RALPH A. Died in Mexico City, May 5, 1948, age 56, of a heart attack. Graduate of the University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago, Illinois, 1920. Licensed in California in 1920. Dr. Woods was a retired member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association and the California Medical Association.